

# **Proposed Additions to California Code of Regulations, Title 5 Sections 80473 and 80473.1, Pertaining to Allowance of a Grace Period for Credential Candidates to Complete Requirements**

October 22, 2002

## **Summary**

This agenda item is proposing additions to the California Code of Regulations, Title 5, which establishes a grace period, as defined by Assembly Bill 1307, when no new requirements will be added to credential candidates enrolled in commission-accredited multiple and single subject credential programs. The proposed regulation additions also provide for credential candidates to take modified credential preparation course work if completing the modified course work does not result in a barrier to completion of the preparation.

## **Fiscal impact**

There will be a minor cost to the agency related to disseminating the information and holding a public hearing. Such costs are contained within the budget of the Certification, Assignment and Waivers Division.

## **Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the proposed additions to the California Code of Regulations, Title 5 Section 80473 and 80473.1 as defined in Assembly Bill 1307, pertaining to allowance of a grace period for credential candidates for purposes of beginning the rulemaking files for submission to the Office of Administrative law and scheduling a public hearing.

## **Background**

On October 5, 2001 Governor Davis signed AB 1307 (Goldberg) (Statutes of 2001, Chapter 565), adding section 44252.1 to the Education Code. This bill, which became effective January 1, 2002, allows a grace period for candidates currently enrolled in a credential preparation program to complete requirements that were in place when they entered the program. The addition of Education Code section 44252.1 aligns with current Commission practice to allow credential candidates sufficient time to complete programs in which they originally enrolled. AB 1307 requires the Commission to adopt regulations to implement this bill. The Commission released Coded Correspondence 02-0005 on April 29, 2002, which outlined the Commission's initial implementation of the statute. This agenda item proposes to place that implementation process into Title 5 Regulations.

The Commission establishes procedures and timelines for credential programs to adopt new program designs and courses as new standards or statutes are introduced. Historically, the time-line for the introduction of new standards for programs is two years the same as the legislation. Programs are given a "phase in and phase out" period in which candidates enrolled in the old program are given time to complete their program under the old requirements and new enrollees are brought into the new program. Individuals who are on a slower completion track are often placed on a "lock list" and are given more time for program completion within a detailed time frame. The adoption of the 2042 implementation timeline took into consideration the timeline established by Education Code Section 44252.1 and is fully compliant with these proposed regulations.

## **Proposed Additions To Title 5 Regulations**

### **§80473. Allowance of Grace Period to Complete Requirements: Definitions & Terms**

(a) For the purpose of this section, a commission-accredited multiple and single subject credential program includes, internship program as defined in Education Code Article 7.5 Sections 44325-44328, professional preparation program as defined in Education Code Article 3 Sections 44450-44468, a professional preparation program as defined in Education Code Article 7 Sections 44320-44324 and integrated program of professional preparation as defined in Education Code Section 44259.

(b) "Enrolled" refers to an individual who, on or after January 1, 2002, continuously participates in and is working toward completing the requirements for a program that meets the minimum requirements for a California preliminary multiple or single subject teaching credential.

(c) "Continuously Enrolled" refers to an individual who has begun a teacher preparation program and does not have a break in that program that exceeds a period of 18 months.

(d) "New or Amended Requirements" refers to requirements added by statutes, regulations and commission standards.

### **§80473.1 Allowance of Grace Period to Complete Requirements**

(a) A credential candidate enrolled in a commission-accredited preparation program shall have not less than twenty-four months after enrollment to complete the program, during which time new or amended requirements shall not apply to that candidate.

(b) A credential candidate may extend up to twelve months in addition to the time specified pursuant to subsection (a) to complete a credential program without additional requirements, if the candidate can demonstrate extenuating circumstances, including but limited to personal or family illness, bereavement or financial hardship and develops a plan to complete the credential program in consultation with the program provider.

(c) Candidates completing integrated programs of professional preparation:

(1) A candidate continuously enrolled in an integrated program of professional preparation on or after January 1, 2002 shall not be held to any new requirements, as long as they do not change the type of credential or program they are pursuing.

(2) A candidate continuously enrolled in an integrated program of professional preparation and has completed all requirements necessary to begin student teaching is eligible to receive an extension of twelve months when necessary to complete the outstanding requirements that were in place when the candidate enrolled in the program. Further, the candidate shall not be held responsible for any new requirements added once student teaching has begun.

(3) This subsection will sunset on January 1, 2006.

(d) Modifications to credentialing examinations made as a result of a validity study or a passing standard study shall not be considered a new requirement.

(e) If required coursework not yet taken by the candidate is modified, the candidate shall take the modified coursework, unless it is not readily available, would result in an increased cost to the candidate or would delay the completion of the program.

(f) Once a candidate has received a preliminary teaching credential pursuant to Education Code Section 44259 and is employed as the teacher of record in a California public school, he or she will not be held to any new requirements for completing the induction phase, which is required to obtain the professional clear pursuant to Education Code Section 44279.4.

(g) The Commission shall maintain a list of candidates who are allowed an extended time period under this section. This list shall include the projected date of program completion for each candidate.

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Note: Authority cited section 44225(d) and 44252.1, Education Code. Referenced: Sections 44320, 44325, 44450, 44259, 44259.1 and 44279.4 Education Code.